

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Premier Motocross Event May 14, 15, and 16

Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area To Host 36th Hangtown Motocross Classic

SACRAMENTO – The 36th annual Hangtown Motocross Classic, one of the largest and most prestigious motocross events in the U.S., will be held May 14, 15 and 16 at California State Park's Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area and will feature the much anticipated return to racing of Ricky Carmichael.

This year, Hangtown is not only the opening round of the AMA/Chevy Trucks 125/250 U.S. Motocross National Championship, but it will also mark the return to motocross racing by Ricky Carmichael, defending AMA 250 Supercross and AMA 250 Motocross Champion who sustained a knee injury in November while pre-season testing for the 2004 season.

Carmichael is no stranger to the winner's circle at Hangtown. He won the 250 class there in both 2003 and 2002. He announced last month that he will be leaving the Honda race team for American Suzuki in the 2005 season.

From its beginnings more than three decades ago when the idea was hatched by friends meeting in a garage, the Hangtown classic has grown into one of the largest and most prestigious motocross events in the entire country, attracting thousands of fans and the top riders in the sport today like two-time Hangtown defending champion Carmichael, Chad Reed, Kevin Windham, David Vuillemin, Mike LaRocco, Tim Ferry and Sacramento area's own Steve Lamson.

The race is put on by the Dirt Diggers North Motorcycle Club, the only club in the country that runs a national-caliber motocross.

Prairie City SVRA is one of six major vehicular recreation areas operated by California State Parks and its Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.

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Gates open Friday at 6 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. Saturday. Sunday professional qualifying starts at 10 a.m. and racing begins at noon. Pits are open 9 a.m. until noon. Pass sales start at 7 a.m., but there is no entry until 9.

Admission Friday and Saturday is: 7 years and under, free; 8 to 12 years, \$5 each day; 13 years and over, \$10 each day. Sunday: 7 years and under, free; 8 to 12 years, \$10 each day; 13 years and over, \$25 (in advance), and \$30 at the gate.

Camping Thursday to Sunday, \$50; Saturday camping only, \$25. Camping is unimproved and is available on a first-come basis. No campfires are allowed. in November

All parking is free at Hangtown.

A portion of Hangtown 2004 ticket sales will benefit the Firefighters Burn Institute in Sacramento.

Race information is available by telephoning (800) HANGTOWN, or by visiting the homepage for Dirt Diggers North Motorcycle Club at hangtownmx.com

Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area is located off Highway 50, about 20 miles east of downtown Sacramento, and is one of six major state vehicular recreation areas operated by California State Parks and its Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.

Directions:

From downtown Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles and points south: Take Highway 50 east (toward Lake Tahoe) approximately 19 miles to the Prairie City off ramp (exit 25). Continue south on Prairie City Road to the dead-end at White Rock Road. Turn right and continue past the pit gate approximately one-half mile to the spectator gate. Turn left into the park.

From Reno and points northeast: Take Highway 80 west toward Sacramento. Take the Sierra College Boulevard off ramp. Turn left back across the freeway and continue south all the way to Highway 50. The name will change from Sierra College Blvd. to Hazel Ave., but continue on this same road. When you reach Highway 50, take 50 east toward to the Prairie City Road off ramp; continue south on Prairie City Road and follow the directions above.

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